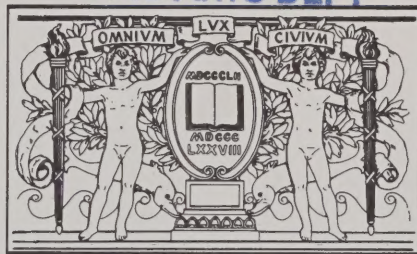


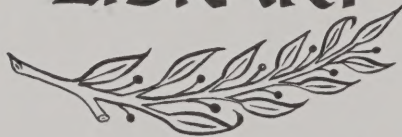
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BOSTON LANDMARKS

PROPERTIES DESIGNATED BY THE BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION

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Since the Boston Landmarks Commission was sworn in the summer of 1976, it has been active in identifying and protecting buildings and neighborhoods throughout the city which are important to the city's heritage.

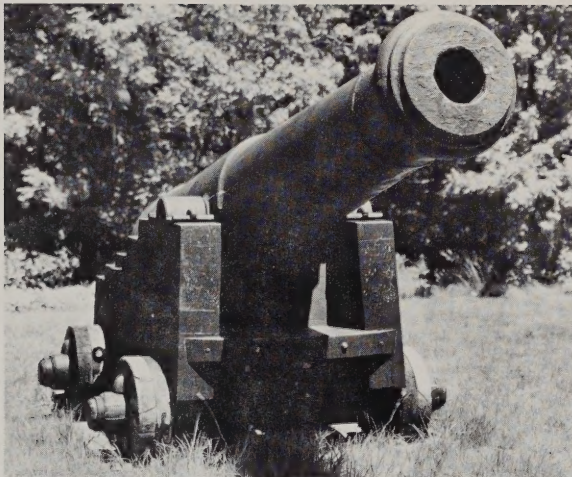
From its first designations of Boston Common and the Public Garden, the Commission's goal has been to consider a wide variety of important properties. Churches, parks, public buildings, private residences, commercial buildings, all have been found worthy of designation as Landmarks.

The Commission proceeds in two ways. On the one hand, it has initiated a comprehensive inventory of significant buildings in the city, looking first at Dorchester and Allston-Brighton, and at the theatre district downtown. It also responds to the needs of Boston residents: local historical societies,

city-wide preservation groups, and neighborhood associations correctly perceive the Commission as a means of achieving their own goals, and have requested the Commission to recognize properties of importance to them.

Most often, the way Boston residents involve themselves in the Commission's work is to obtain signatures on a citizen petition (ten voters can start the process). Residents also serve on district study committees, and can help by simply letting the Commission know the problems and issues it can address in their neighborhoods. To the greatest extent possible, the Boston Landmarks Commission would like to work with interested Bostonians to preserve the heritage of our city.

Pauline Chase Harrell, Chairwoman
Marcia Myers, Executive Director



The word is defined in Chapter 772 of the Acts of 1975, the Commission's enabling act:

"Landmark," any physical feature or improvement designated by the commission...which in whole or part has historical, social, cultural, architectural or aesthetic significance to the city and the commonwealth, the New England region or the nation.

A Landmark can thus be a building where an event took place, the home of an important historical figure, or simply a grand or unique park or building. It is not necessarily something merely old, although that is a consideration; in fact, a building erected as recently as 1922 is a Landmark. It is not necessarily something architecturally outstanding; several vernacular buildings associated with historical figures are Landmarks.

Importantly, there are a few things that a Landmark is not. For one, it need not be a museum. By designating a Landmark, the Landmarks Commission obtains review over physical changes, but the property designated remains otherwise the same as before—a home, a business, a park, a church, or any new use that may interest the owner.

It is not necessarily a threatened building. The idea behind Landmark designation is to forestall threats to buildings and parks that give us a sense of place and time in our communities, so that recognition of their importance can be incorporated into planning. Once designated, a Landmark is effectively protected from threats of all sorts, yet still can be used in a variety of ways.

Landmarks are distributed throughout the city of Boston. Many are located within the original town of Boston, but equally important are those in the annexed towns that form today's neighborhoods. This earlier history of the neighborhoods is reflected in their Landmarks.

Some Landmarks, noted by the letters "NR," are also listed in the National Register of Historic Places, established by the federal government in 1966 to provide protection from federally sponsored activity and eligibility for certain incentive programs.



Located adjacent to Arnold Arboretum, the Adams Nervine Asylum is the last remaining country estate within the city still in its original setting.

The Asylum was the location of 19th century efforts to treat minor psychiatric illnesses more humanely. Seth Adams, a wealthy manufacturer, established the Asylum with a \$600,000 bequest.

The architecture of the buildings reflects the characteristic picturesque Victorian styles. The Weld House (1875) was designed in the French Second Empire style, with a five-story tower. The sprawling Adams House (1880) is a two-story irregularly massed Queen Anne style structure. The Director's House (1895), the other major structure, is a two-story symmetrical Colonial Revival house. Four ancillary structures are also on the property, including the mansarded carriage house with cupola, a fine example of pattern book architecture.

Designated May 10, 1977



The prominent Armory, designed by William G. Preston, is the last High Victorian Gothic armory in the city. Also, it has been associated with the First Corps of Cadets, chartered in 1741 as bodyguard to the colonial governors.

The medieval fortress inspired the design of Preston, whose other Boston works include the old Museum of Natural History (now Bonwit Teller), the original Hotel Vendome, and the International Trust Company Building (also a Landmark, q.v.) The Armory meets complex functional needs and shows Preston's facile control of the eclectic tastes of the 19th century.

The history of the Corps, including service in the Revolutionary War, Civil War and both World Wars, exemplifies the varied roles of local militias.

Designated May 10, 1977, NR

ARMORY OF THE FIRST CORPS OF CADETS

105 Arlington Street, Boston 1897



Set aside in 1634 for common land, pasture and militia training, Boston Common is the first public park in the United States. The Town of Boston purchased the first

common land from William Blackstone, its first settler; the town planned grazing and military training. However, as early as 1663 contemporary accounts describe men and women of Boston taking evening strolls and children swimming and skating at the Frog Pond. Grazing was prohibited in 1830.

Used today for a variety of activities, the Common has numerous prominent features: the Central Burying Ground (1756), resting place for British soldiers killed at Bunker Hill; the granite kiosks of the Tremont Street Subway (1897), America's oldest; the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial to the first black regiment of the Civil War; the tall Soldiers and Sailors Monument; various fountains, gates, plaques, monuments and ballfields; and the Boston Common Underground Garage.

Designated May 10, 1977, NR



This Greek Revival frame house in the northwest corner of East Boston is significant for its association with its builder, 19th century clipper ship builder Donald McKay.

Born in Canada, McKay established his shipyard in East Boston, where in 1850 he designed the clipper, a major influence on the development of the international shipping industry. Most notable of the ships constructed in East Boston was the “Flying Cloud,” whose speed records stood the challenge of steam-powered ships for over 20 years.

Distinctive to this gable-end house is the columned side porch. McKay possibly designed this feature with the aid of an architectural handbook to honor the original 13 colonies.

Designated May 10, 1977

DONALD MCKAY HOUSE

80 White Street, East Boston 1844



From its beginnings in 1839 as the Botanical Garden, the Public Garden reflects the early and substantial concern of Boston's citizens for the enhancement of the city's physical character.

British landscape architect John Cadness

began laying out the Botanical Garden in 1839. The sale of former ropewalks and finally the filling of the Back Bay mudflats in 1856 provided the land for the current Garden.

Architect George Meacham called on British precedents in his redesign of the Garden in the 1850's. The lagoon, asymmetrical curving pathways and informal planting arrangements (including specimen trees) follow the theories of Alexander Jackson Downing. The famous Swan Boats, still operated by the Paget family, have shared the lagoon with ducks since 1877.

Other distinctive features include the statuary, highlighted by the Washington statue by Thomas Bell, and the classical revival suspension bridge crossing the lagoon, dating from 1869.

Designated May 10, 1977, NR



In 1841, Unitarian minister George Ripley organized a corporation to establish a community with agriculture and education as its aims. Ripley had turned from Unitarianism to Transcendentalism. The Brook Farm School, which eschewed needless discipline, had many famous students. The original farmers included many intellectuals and authors, including Nathaniel Hawthorne. A shop building and cottage remain from the original Brook Farm.

A major fire forced the demise of the community in 1849. During the Civil War, the farm was used as a military training field, Camp Andrew. From 1871 to 1974, the property was used by the Lutheran Church for the Martin Luther Orphans Home. Still in use is another church-related facility, Gethsemane Cemetery.

Designated Oct. 25, 1977, NR

A 185-acre plot of highlands, wetlands and cemetery, Brook Farm is the site of one of the most famous early 19th century utopian communities.

BROOK FARM

670 Baker Street, West Roxbury 1841



This two-story frame house by a renowned American artisan is the best example in Boston of the transition from Greek Revival to Gothic Revival domestic architecture.

Prominently sited on an elevated lot, the house displays such early Gothic Revival features as doorway spirelets, wood imitation tracery, pointed arches and "Carpenter Gothic" bargeboards (or "gingerbread"). Otherwise, the house is Greek Revival in form, with the white color and gable end facing the street.

Roswell Gleason, builder of the house, was a prominent pewterer and resident of then-independent Dorchester. His silver plate operation was reportedly the first in America, and his pewter work is included in most major American collections, such as at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Designated Oct. 25, 1977

ROSWELL GLEASON HOUSE

101 Claybourne Street, Dorchester ca. 1840



This house in the Jones Hill section of Dorchester is significant as the home of William Monroe Trotter, an early 20th century black civil rights leader.

An 1895 graduate of Harvard (and its first black Phi Beta Kappa), Trotter founded the Boston Literary and Historical Association and co-founded *The Guardian*, a weekly newspaper, both in 1901. President of the New England Suffrage League, Trotter often was at odds with Booker T. Washington, advocate of foregoing political involvement.

Trotter lived here from 1899 to 1909. The house, with details from both Queen Anne and Shingle styles, is typical of late 19th century vernacular architecture.

Designated Oct. 25, 1977, NR

WILLIAM MONROE TROTTER HOUSE

97 Sawyer Avenue, Dorchester 1893



This home of a service and recreation organization is the most accomplished High Victorian Gothic style building still standing in central Boston.

The five-story structure is built of masonry with a street facade of buff colored sandstone. The design is by Nathaniel J. Bradlee, a prolific Boston architect of whose buildings many have been lost. The building is unique among High Victorian Gothic buildings, as it lacks the multiple colors typical of the period; the massing and detailing, especially of the ornate main entrance, clearly state the design's period.

The BYMCU, founded in 1851, continues to provide for young people a focus of activities, including a chess club, gymnasium, summer camp for children, and two social service programs.

Designated Nov. 30, 1977



The work of notable Boston architect Carl Fehmer, the Boylston Building is the dominant urban design feature at the corner of Boylston and Washington Streets.

Built in 1887 to replace Charles Bulfinch's Boylston Market, the building's structural system is a hybrid of traditional ornamental masonry and the then-innovative Chicago school metal frame. Fehmer's exterior design, executed in a sandstone veneer, features details from the Renaissance and Romanesque periods.

Designated Nov. 30, 1977

BOYLSTON BUILDING

2 Boylston Street, Boston 1887



This five-story brownstone structure is the last extant commercial building in Boston designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, one of America's greatest architects.

The design was only recently discovered to be by Richardson. The strong controlled massing and round-headed arches are characteristic of the personalized Romanesque that ultimately bore his name. Among his other noteworthy local structures are Trinity and First Baptist Churches in the Back Bay and Sever and Austin Halls at Harvard University.

Designated Nov. 30, 1977

HAYDEN BUILDING

691 Washington Street, Boston 1875



The two contiguous houses making up the restaurant are significant not only as home of a famous Boston eatery, but as rare survivors of a once-dominant architectural type in downtown.

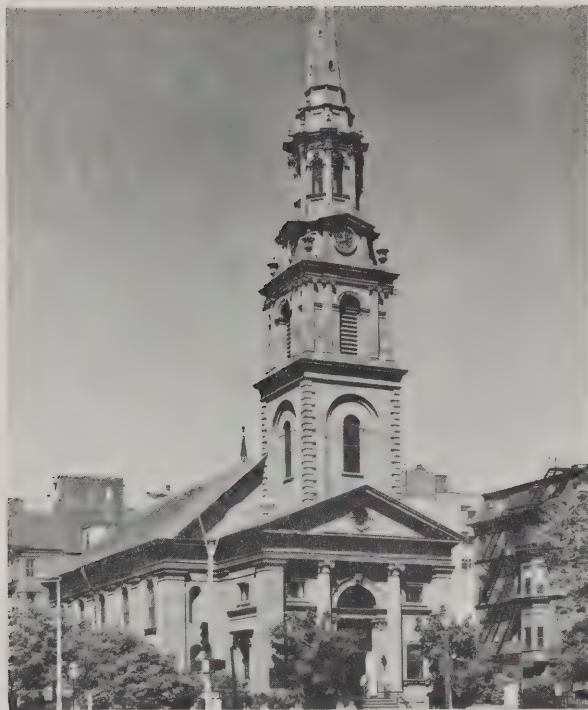
Jacob Wirth, an immigrant from Germany, moved his restaurant from its original location in 1878 and expanded to the second house in 1889. Today's interior fittings, including mahogany bar, brass railings and oak tables, date from this expansion. The Wirth family owned the restaurant until 1965; under new management, the restaurant continues its traditions today.

The vernacular Greek Revival buildings are the best remaining examples of the bowfronted row housing which proliferated in Park Square from 1835 to 1850.

Designated Nov. 30, 1977 (interior and exterior)

JACOB WIRTH RESTAURANT

31-39 Stuart Street, Boston 1844



The brownstone Arlington Street Church, designed by Arthur Gilman, is the oldest church in the Back Bay and a nationally important example of the early Georgian Revival.

Architect Gilman had earlier laid out the street pattern for the Back Bay landfill project, following a French plan (see Commonwealth Avenue Mall). For the church, he used the classical design seen commonly in the reigns of the Kings George of England, 1714-1830; it is similar to the 1722 Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London, by James Gibbs.

The congregation that moved to Arlington Street was the old Federal Street Church, from 1803 to 1842 the pastorate of the Rev. William Ellery Channing, father of modern Unitarianism in the United States.

Designated April 25, 1978, NR

ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

355 Boylston St. 1859



The James Blake House is one of two Dorchester structures which are the oldest standing buildings in Boston.

The house was first occupied by James Blake, a deacon born in England in 1624 and husband of Elizabeth Clap. The Blake family retained a partial interest in the house until 1825. The Dorchester Historical Society moved the house to its present site in 1895 to prevent its demolition, marking one of the earliest instances of moving a house in order to preserve it.

The house is the earlier of only two extant mid-17th century timber frame structures in America using framing methods derived from the west of England. Also, the house contains much intact original material, particularly in the interior.

Designated April 25, 1978 (exterior and interior), NR

JAMES BLAKE HOUSE

210 East Cottage Street, Richardson Park, Dorchester 1650



The grass- and tree-lined mall is one of the principal urban design features of Arthur Gilman's Back Bay street plan. Gilman, who had studied in Paris, discarded the English tradition of building houses around small squares as seen in the South End. Following the dictates of the Baron Hausmann, famous for his 19th century redesign of Paris, Gilman made Commonwealth Avenue his main axial boulevard. Uniform heights and setbacks and mansard roofs on buildings also characterize the French Second Empire plan. American elm is planted in rows of four across to form a canopy over the mall. Monuments to such historic figures as Alexander Hamilton, William Lloyd Garrison and Leif Ericsson are located here.

Designated April 25, 1978, NR (part of Back Bay district)

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE MALL

1856-1888



This office structure close to Post Office Square is significant for its Beaux-Arts design by William G. Preston.

The original building, designed for a financial institution later incorporated into another Boston bank, covered the entire Devonshire Street frontage and only two bays on Milk Street. Large allegorical figures by sculptor Max Bachman decorate the facade windows. The building was enlarged to its present size in 1906, when the heavy projecting baroque pediment was erected over the new main entrance on Milk Street.

Preston designed numerous significant Boston buildings in the late 19th century, with a special aptitude to follow changing tastes in design (see Armory of the First Corps of Cadets).

Designated April 25, 1978

INTERNATIONAL TRUST COMPANY BUILDING

45 Milk Street, Boston 1893, Expanded 1906



This three-story residence and shop building is the last structure in Boston associated with John Hancock, signer of the Declaration of Independence and governor of Massachusetts.

Hancock built the house and allowed his younger brother Ebenezer to use it as his home after the evacuation of Boston in 1776. As Deputy Paymaster General of the Continental Army, Ebenezer used the house as his headquarters.

The house, one of only eleven pre-Revolutionary buildings in central Boston, retains considerable interior and exterior fabric, including two late Georgian panelled rooms on the second floor. The first floor had been used continuously by shoe merchants from 1798 to 1963.

Designated June 27, 1978 (exterior and interior), NR (part of Blackstone Block)

EBENEZER HANCOCK HOUSE

10 Marshall Street, Boston ca. 1767-1775



The bank building is an architecturally outstanding High Victorian Gothic commercial block on a prominent site, and also served as home for two renowned Charlestown institutions.

The design by Moffette and Tolman displays the bold, eclectic Gothic imported from England after the Civil War. Details on the bank typical of the style are pointed Gothic arches, stone band courses and a richly patterned facade.

The Charlestown Savings Bank, founded in 1854, occupied portions of the building from 1876 to 1978. The three top floors were built for three Masonic Lodges, including King Solomon's Lodge (founded in 1783).

Designated Oct. 10, 1978

CHARLESTOWN SAVINGS BANK

1 Thompson Square, Charlestown 1876



The first permanent New England home of this national banking system is also a notable design by a prominent architect in the classical tradition of local commercial architecture.

The design was by R. Clipston Sturgis, former president of the American Institute of Architects. The Renaissance Revival plan is the latest in Boston of that style, the culmination of a long tradition. Interior highlights include a gilded coffered ceiling and wall murals by N.C. Wyeth.

The expansion of the Federal Reserve Bank that produced two additions to the original structure has ultimately resulted in the move to the new South Station location in 1978. The semipublic banking system established its first Boston office in rented quarters in 1914.

Designated Oct. 10, 1978

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK BUILDING

30 Pearl Street, Boston 1922



This two-room schoolhouse is Boston's last wooden school building, built from the design of nationally renowned architect Edmund March Wheelwright.

The main building is a yellow clapboarded Georgian Revival structure with a colonnaded portico and cupola. The school is the third building to serve the Oak Square area of Brighton as a school.

In his term as Boston city architect from 1891 to 1895, Wheelwright set a new standard of excellence in American municipal architecture. Among his other prominent examples are the Park Street subway kiosks and the former Fire Department headquarters in the South End. In private practice his distinguished works include Horticultural Hall, the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Longfellow Bridge between Boston and Cambridge.

Designated April 10, 1979

OAK SQUARE SCHOOL

35 Nonantum Street, Brighton 1894, Enlarged 1923



Note: The jail was designated by the Commission Nov. 28, 1978, but is not entitled to the protection of Landmark status: the Boston City Council voted to overturn the designation Jan. 10, 1979, in anticipation of a federal court order to do so. Nonetheless, the jail remains a building of outstanding merit.

The Suffolk County Jail is one of the most distinguished examples of Boston granite school architecture, designed by the architect historically associated with this style, Gridley J.F. Bryant. In addition, its functional design is evidence of changing attitudes in mid-19th century America toward effective and humane penology.

Built to replace the outmoded Leverett Street Jail, the jail's radiating wing design incorporates the so-called Auburn Plan, intended to alleviate the pressures on inmates caused by then-general solitary confinement. The use of this plan at Charles Street, allowing space for communal work, exercise and meals, influenced penal architecture throughout New England and the nation. Bryant used Renaissance Revival details to temper the forbidding effect of the massive granite building.

SUFFOLK COUNTY JAIL

215 Charles Street, Boston 1851

The Boston Landmarks Commission reflects a commitment on the part of the city to historic preservation and to two of its growing concerns: neighborhood preservation and reuse of older buildings.

Preservation benefits the city, by:

- stabilizing neighborhoods;
- increasing the tax base;
- capitalizing on existing investments in utilities and services;
- providing labor-intensive construction jobs; and
- strengthening the city's position in its continuing competition with the suburbs as a place to work, shop, live, and visit.

As we look beyond the 350th anniversary of Boston's founding, it is appropriate that the Landmarks Commission ensures that we continue the enhanced care and concern for our cultural heritage.

Kevin H. White
Mayor

City of Boston

Kevin H. White, Mayor

Boston Landmarks Commission

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BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION

DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL LANDMARKS

As of October 1992

Boston Landmarks Commission

City of Boston
The Environment
Department

Boston City Hall/Room 805
Boston, Massachusetts 02201
617/725-3850

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE
Adams Nervine Asylum	990-1020 Centre Street, Jamaica Plain	5/10/77
Arlington Street Church	355 Boylston Street, Back Bay	4/25/78
Armory of First Corps of Cadets	Arlington & Columbus, South Cove	5/10/77
Austin House	90-92 Main Street, Charlestown	1/31/81
Berkeley Building	414-426 Boylston Street, Back Bay	7/9/85
Blackstone Block Street Network	Blackstone Block, Central Business District	4/26/83
Boston Common	Park, Tremont, Beacon & Charles Central Business Dist.	5/10/77
Boston Young Men's Christian Union	48 Boylston Street, Theater District	11/30/77
Boylston Building	2 Boylston Street, Theater District	11/30/77
5-7 Broad Street	5-7 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
7-9 Broad Street	7-9 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
50-52 Broad Street	50-52 Broad Street, Central Business District	4/9/85
64 Broad Street	64 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
66 Broad Street	66 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
68 Broad Street	68 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
72 Broad Street	72 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
102 Broad Street	102 Broad Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
20-30 Bromfield Street	20-30 Bromfield Street, Central Business District	3/8/83
Brook Farm	670 Baker Street, West Roxbury	10/25/77
Charlestown Savings Bank	1-4 Thompson Square, Charlestown	10/10/78
Chestnut Hill Reservoir Complex	2400-2450 Beacon Street, Brighton	9/26/89
Church Green Building	103-113 Summer Street, Central Business District	10/2/79
City Square Historical Site	City Square, Charlestown	6/23/92
Commonwealth Avenue Mall	Commonwealth Avenue, Back Bay	4/25/78
Cox Building	1-7 Dudley Street, Roxbury	7/10/79
Curley House (interior & exterior)	350 Jamaicaaway, Jamaica Plain	7/12/89
Dorchester North Burying Ground	Columbia Road, Dorchester	11/1/81
Dorchester Pottery Works	101-105 Victory Road, Dorchester	6/24/80
Federal Reserve Bank	30 Pearl Street, Central Business District	10/10/78
The Fens	Park Drive & The Fenway, Fenway	11/1/83
Franklin Park	Seaver & Morton Streets, Roxbury	8/26/80
The Gibson House	137 Beacon Street, Back Bay	7/28/92
Hayden Building	691 Washington Street, Theater	11/30/77
25-27 India Street	25-27 India Street, Central Business District	11/1/83
International Trust Company	45 Milk Street, Central Business District	4/25/78
Jacob Wirth's (interior & exterior)	31-39 Stuart Street, Theater	11/30/77
Liberty Tree Block	628-636 Washington Street, Theater	4/9/85
Loring House	789 East Broadway, South Boston	6/23/84
Donald McKay House	80 White Street, East Boston	5/10/77
Oak Square School	35 Nonantum Street, Brighton	4/10/79
Olmsted Parks	Emerald Necklace, Jamaica Plain, Fenway	10/24/89
Paramount Theater	549-63 Washington Street, Theater	2/14/84
Proctor Building	100-106 Bedford Street, Central Business District	9/27/83
Public Garden	Arlington & Charles Street South, Boston	5/10/77
St. Gabriel's Monastery Building	159 Washington Street, Brighton	1/10/89
Saxon Theater (interior & exterior)	219-221 Tremont Street, Theater	8/12/86
Sears Building	Park Drive, Fenway	10/10/89
Second Brazer Building	25-29 State Street, Central Business District	7/9/85
Stock Exchange Building	53 State Street, Central Business District	1/2/80
Street Clocks	E. Boston, S. Boston, Dorchester & Back Bay	11/1/83
Theodore Parker Church	1851 Centre Street, West Roxbury	4/9/85
Trinity Neighborhood House	406 Meridian Street, East Boston	6/23/81
Trotter (William Monroe) House	97 Sawyer Avenue, Dorchester	10/25/77
Tugboat Luna	The Esplanade, Charles River	4/9/85
United Shoe Machinery Building	140 Federal Street, Central Business District	12/20/83
Wang Theater	268 Tremont Street, Theater	7/10/90
Wilbur Theater	250 Tremont Street, Theater	7/14/87

Rec'd Sept. 1993

